CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of recording information on and/or reproducing information from an optical storage medium including a lead-in area, a data zone in which user data is recorded, and a lead-out area, the method comprising:

recording write protection information which indicates one of a plurality of write protection statuses of the optical storage medium, one of the statuses being to allow defect management of a write protected optical storage medium.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data zone includes a user data area and at least one of an inner spare area and an outer spare area.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the lead-in area and the lead-out area comprises a drive test zone and a disc identification zone, and the data zone includes an inner spare area and/or an outer spare area which are recordable.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein if the user area has a defect area, at least one of the inner and outer spare areas is useable to replace the defect area.

5. A method of recording information on and/or reproducing information from an optical storage medium including a lead-in area, a data zone in which user data is recorded, and a lead-out area, the method comprising:

recording write protection information which indicates one of a plurality of write protection statuses of the optical storage medium, each one of the plurality of write protection statuses indicating a size of a corresponding write protected area.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the size includes a portion of the data zone.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the data zone includes a user data area and at least one of an inner spare area and an outer spare area.

8.   The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one of the inner and outer spare areas is recordable.

9.   The method of claim 7, wherein the write protection information indicates that only the user data area is write-protected.

10.   The method of claim 5, wherein the at least one of the lead-in area and the lead-out area comprises a drive test zone and a disc identification zone, and the data zone includes at least one of an inner spare area and an outer spare area which are recordable.

11.   A method of recording data on and/or reproducing data from an optical storage medium including a lead-in area, a data zone, and a lead-out area, the method comprising:

recording write protection information which indicates one of a plurality of write protection statuses of the optical storage medium, one of the statuses being to allow defect management of a write protected optical storage medium;

recording information on a position of a defect area appearing during reproduction of data in a memory built in a drive;

after completing the reproduction of the data, copying data recorded in the defect area into a predetermined area of the data zone using the position information of the defect area recorded in the memory if the write protection information indicates that the write protection status allows defect management; and

recording the position information of the defect area and information on the position of the predetermined area of the data zone into which data recorded in the defect area has been copied if the write protection information indicates that the write protection status allows defect management.

12.   The method of claim 11, wherein the write protection information is recorded in a disc identification zone included in the at least one of the lead-in area and the lead-out area.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the information on the positions of the defect area and the predetermined area of the data zone into which data recorded in the defect area has been copied are recorded in a defect management zone included in at least one of the lead-in area and the lead-out area.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the information on the positions of the defect area and the predetermined area of the data zone into which data recorded in the defect area has been copied are recorded in a defect management zone included in the at least one of the lead-in area and the lead-out area.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the copying of the data recorded in the defect area into the predetermined area of the data zone is performed at a point in time when the drive enters a standby mode or right before the optical storage medium is unloaded out of the drive.